

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Charles V. Burton  
Serial No.: 10/698,650  
Filed: October 31, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 3733  
Examiner: James L. Swigger III  
Confirmation No.: 3753  
Title: **INTEGRAL FLEXIBLE SPINE STABILIZATION DEVICE AND  
METHOD**  
Attorney Docket: ZMS-EF42US

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

September 18, 2006

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

This paper is responsive to the Office Action mailed May 4, 2006. Please  
amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are on Pages 2 - 3;

Amendments to the Claims are on Pages 4 – 6; and

Remarks are on Pages 7 – 9.